THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) and National Housing Bank (NHB) have reported that they have not received any proposal in the recent past from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance to improve the conditions of hospitals in the State.

(b) Does not arise.

Revenue loss due to Shifting of Serials from DD-2 to DD-1

2106. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:

Will the Minister INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 40 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1995 and state:

(a) the gross revenue earned in the month of July, 1995 by popular TV serials shifted from 2nd June 1995 from DD-II Metro Channel to DD-I primary Channel at 10.30 PM slots;

(b) what is the percentage of loss of revenue to Doordarshan per month after these serials are shifted as compared to revenue loss/earned by these serials during March, April and May, 1995; and

(c) what steps are being taken to revert these serials to some other suitable prime time slots keeping in view of the larger interest of viewers all over the country and accruing maximum revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Rs. 53.56 lakhs.

(b) Monthly variations in the commercial revenue earned by Doordarshan is a normal feature. Any conclusion about Doordarshan having suffered any loss of commercial revenue or otherwise can be drawn only after the full figures for 1995-96 become available.

(c) The time slots allotted to these serials are considered appropriate at present.

Excise Duty on Tractors

2107. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of excise duty on the tractors of different make;

(b) the same on scooters and cars;

(c) whether the excise at source on the components which are taken from outside like battery, light electrical equipments typer etc, included in it; details thereof; and

(d) what are the details of excise on tractor combine and excisable tractor machinery annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) (i) Excise duty rate on tractors of engine capacity not exceeding 1800 cubic centimeters and their chassis — nil
(ii) Excise duty rate on tractors of engine capacity exceeding 1800 cc and their chassis — 10% ad valorem.

(b) (i) Excise duty rate on two-wheeled motor vehicles (including scooters) of engine capacity not exceeding 75 cc — 15% valorem.
(ii) Excise duty rate on two-wheeled motor vehicles (including scooters) of engine capacity exceeding 75 cc — 25% ad valorem.
(iii) Excise duty rate on cars — 40% ad valorem.

(c) The excise duty paid on components is available as credit under the Modvat Scheme for payment of excise duty on the final product. However, no credit is allowed in the fianal product is exempted from excise duty.

(d) According to information maintained by the Deptt., excise duty collected on tractors and chassis of tractors fitted with engine during 1994-95 is provisionally placed at Rs. 51.87 crores.

Flights between Delhi and Guwahati

2108. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the reason for not operating daily flight between Delhi and Guwahati; and

(b) whether Government propose to introduce daily flight between Delhi and Guwahati at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Due to shortage of operating crew, Indian Airlines has curtailed its services on the sector Delhi/Bagdogra/Guwahati/Delhi from seven services to four services a week w.e.f. 19.6.1995.

(b) At present, Indian Airlines is not in a position to restore the withdrawn services due to crew constraints. However, M/s Jet Airways and M/s East West Airlines have schedules approved by the DGCA to operate daily flights on the sectors Delhi-Guwahati and Delhi-Calcutta-Guwahati respectively.

Merger of DESU Deb

2109. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 191 given in the Rajya Sabha on 1st August, 1995, and state:

(a) whether the existing DESU would be eliminated or merged with the new SEB or Delhi Electricity Board; and

(b) if so, to what extent the mounting losses in DESU and pilferages etc., would be curbed by the setting up of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) The proposed Electricity Board for Delhi would be in place of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU).

(b) The formation of the Board and the modalities for its functioning would depend upon the completion of legal and administrative formalities. The new Board, when constituted would strive to curb the mounting losses and pilferages etc.

Proposal to ban advertisements showing sexual overtones on Television

2110. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to ban commercial advertisements showing sexual overtones on televison;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMAITON AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Doordarshan telecasts commercial advertisements as per the guidelines prescribed in the Code for Commercial Advertising on Doordarshan. The Code inter-alia does not permit any advertisement which tends to glorify obscenity in any way or project a derogatory image of women. Furthermore, each advertiser on Doordarshan is required to ensue that the portrayal of the female form is tasteful and aesthetic, and is within the well established norms of good taste and decency.

Export of Handicrafts

2111. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is great potential for export of handicrafts from the country at present;